GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:426
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
INDIA S GROWTH RATE IN TERMS OF ECOLOGICAL COSTS .
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether according to former Director of National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) India is having minus 5 per cent growth in terms of ecological costs; and

(b) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken to get over this problem?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a) Former Director of National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), in his paper titled `Environmental Evaluatio Of Economic Growth: An Agenda For Change`, published in1997, has projected minus 4.92 per cent annual growth rate adjusted to environmental factors. However, there is no conclusive inference available in this regard.

(b) Government has undertaken various programmes such as environmental impact assessment, eco-regeneration, implementation of environmental and forestry programmes, promotion of environmental and forestry research, education and training, dissemination of environmental information to check environmental degradation. These programmes are well supported by a set of legislative and regulatory measures aiming at the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment which include the following:-

(i) Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

(ii) Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981

(iii) Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(iv) Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991.

(v) National Environment Tribunal Act, 1995

(vi) National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997.

(vii) Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

(viii) Forests (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(ix) National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development, 1992.

(x) National Forest Policy, 1988.

(xi) Policy Statement on Abatement of Pollution, 1992.